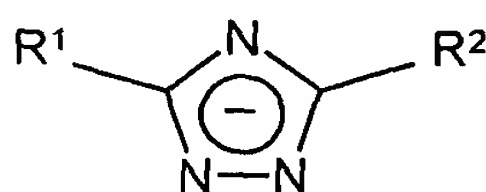
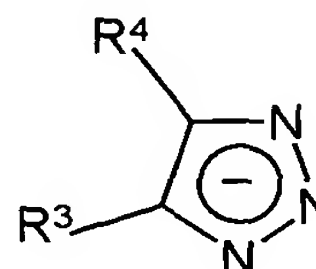


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound containing uretdione groups, having a molar fraction of  
isocyanurate structures, based on the sum of uretdione groups and  
isocyanurate groups, of not more than 10%, wherein the compound is  
obtained by dimerizing aliphatic and/or cycloaliphatic isocyanates  
containing exclusively secondary and/or tertiary isocyanate groups.
2. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein the compound is obtained by  
dimerizing aliphatic and/or cycloaliphatic diisocyanates containing  
exclusively secondary and/or tertiary isocyanate groups.
3. The compound according to Claim 2, wherein the diisocyanates comprise  
4,4'-diisocyanatodicyclohexylmethane.
4. A process for dimerizing compounds containing exclusively secondary  
and/or tertiary isocyanate groups comprising dimerizing said compounds in  
the presence of a saltlike oligomerization catalyst containing one or both of  
1,2,3-triazolate structures and 1,2,4-triazolate structures in the anion of the  
catalyst.
5. The process according to Claim 4, wherein the anion of the saltlike  
oligomerization catalyst contains one or both triazolate structures of the  
general formulas (I) and (II)



(I)



(II)

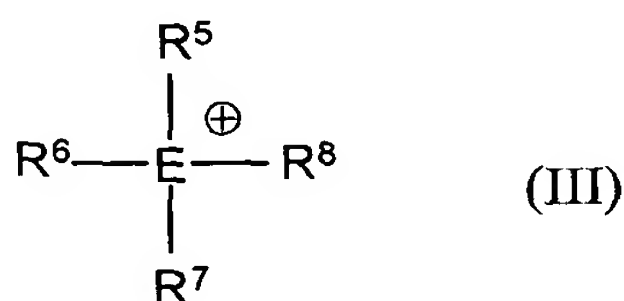
wherein

- 5                     $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are independently identical or different radicals selected from a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom selected from fluorine, chlorine and bromine; a nitro group; a saturated or unsaturated aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical; an optionally substituted aromatic or araliphatic radical containing up to 20 carbon atoms and optionally up to 3 heteroatoms selected from oxygen, sulphur and nitrogen and optionally substituted by halogen atoms or nitro groups and where  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  in formula (II) together with the carbon atoms of the 1,2,3-triazolate five-membered ring also  
10                    form optionally fused rings having 3 to 6 carbon atoms.
6.                    The process according to Claim 5, wherein the anion of the saltlike oligomerization catalyst compound contains the triazolate structures of general formula (I), wherein  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are identical or different radicals  
15                    selected from a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom selected from fluorine, chlorine and bromine; a nitro group; a saturated aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical or an optionally substituted aromatic or araliphatic radical containing up to 12 carbon atoms and optionally up to 3 heteroatoms selected from oxygen, sulphur and nitrogen and can optionally be  
20                    substituted by halogen atoms or nitro groups.
7.                    The process according to Claim 5, wherein the anion of the saltlike oligomerization catalyst compound contains the triazolate structure of general formula (II), wherein  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are identical or different radicals  
25                    selected from a hydrogen atom; a halogen atom selected from fluorine, chlorine and bromine; a nitro group; a saturated or unsaturated aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radical or an optionally substituted aromatic or araliphatic radical containing up to 12 carbon atoms and optionally up to 3 heteroatoms selected from oxygen, sulphur and nitrogen and can optionally  
30                    be substituted by halogen atoms or nitro groups; and together with the

carbon atoms of the 1,2,3-triazolate five-membered ring also form optionally fused rings having 3 to 6 carbon atoms.

8. The process according to Claim 5, wherein the anion of the saltlike  
5 oligomerization catalyst comprises one or more salts of compounds selected from 1,2,4-triazole, 1,2,3-triazole and 1,2,3-benzotriazole, and mixtures thereof.

9. The process according to Claim 5, wherein the oligomerization catalyst  
10 contain as cations one or more compounds selected from alkali metal ions, monovalent ammonium ions, and phosphonium cations of the general formula (III)



15 wherein

E is nitrogen or phosphorus, and

20  $\text{R}^5$ ,  $\text{R}^6$ ,  $\text{R}^7$  and  $\text{R}^8$  are identical or different radicals selected from saturated aliphatic or cycloaliphatic radicals and optionally substituted aromatic or araliphatic radicals having up to 18 carbon atoms.

10. A polyurethane polymer prepared by reacting the compounds containing  
25 uretdione groups according to Claim 1 with a polyol in a polyaddition process.

11. A method of preparing a polyurethane polymer comprising reacting the compounds containing uretdione groups according to Claim 1 in a polyaddition process.
- 5 12. A method of preparing a powder coating composition comprising adding the polyurethane polymers according to Claim 10, as a crosslinking component, to the powder coating composition.
- 10 13. A powder coating composition comprising the polyurethane polymers according to Claim 10 as a crosslinking component.